

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 25, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 845

Introduced by Assembly Member Bass

February 26, 2009

An act to amend Section 5056.5 of the Penal Code, relating to corrections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 845, as amended, Bass. Corrections: Reentry Advisory Committee.

Existing law requires the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish a Reentry Advisory Committee, comprised as specified, to advise the secretary on matters related to the successful planning, implementation, and outcomes of all reentry programs and services in the department, with the goal of reducing recidivism. Existing law repeals these provisions on January 1, 2011.

This bill would impose additional requirements on the committee, including that the committee seek and apply for federal funds, develop a comprehensive strategic reentry plan seeking to reduce the recidivism rate, *develop a comprehensive resource guide for entities working to address reentry issues*, and ~~submit a report to the Legislature issue reports~~, as specified. *The bill would expand the membership of the committee.* The bill would extend the repeal date on these provisions until January 1, ~~2014~~ 2016.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 5056.5 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

5056.5. (a) On or before July 1, 2007, the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall establish a Reentry Advisory Committee. The committee shall report to the secretary, who shall serve as chair of the committee. The committee shall include representation from stakeholders in the successful administration of reentry programming and shall be comprised of the following members, appointed by the secretary:

(1) A representative of the California League of Cities.

(2) A representative of the California State Association of Counties.

(3) A representative of the California State Sheriffs' Association.

(4) A representative of the California Police Chiefs' Association.

(5) A representative of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Adult Parole Operations.

(6) A representative of the Department of Mental Health.

(7) A representative of the Department of Social Services.

(8) A representative of the Department of Health Services.

(9) A representative of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

(10) A representative of the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association.

(11) A representative of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives.

(12) An individual with experience in providing housing for low-income individuals.

(13) A recognized expert in restorative justice programs.

(14) An individual with experience in providing education and vocational training services.

(15) An independent consultant with expertise in community corrections and reentry services.

~~(b) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly at a time and place determined by the secretary. Committee members shall receive compensation for travel expenses pursuant to existing regulations, but no other compensation.~~

(16) A public defender or private defense attorney.

1 (17) *A representative of a community-based organization who*
2 *is familiar with the reentry needs of former offenders and who has*
3 *experience advocating for former offenders and with providing*
4 *reentry services in southern California.*

5 (18) *A representative of a faith-based organization who is*
6 *familiar with the reentry needs of former offenders and who has*
7 *experience advocating for former offenders and providing reentry*
8 *services in northern California.*

9 (b) *The committee shall meet not less frequently than each*
10 *quarter and shall also meet at the call of the secretary. The*
11 *committee shall hold its meetings at a time and location that is*
12 *convenient to the public. All meetings of the committee shall be*
13 *open to the public. Members shall serve without compensation.*

14 (c) *The Reentry Advisory Committee shall advise the secretary*
15 *on all matters related to the successful statewide planning,*
16 *implementation, and outcomes of all reentry programs and services*
17 *provided by the department, with the goal of reducing recidivism*
18 *of all persons under the jurisdiction of the department and shall*
19 *submit a report detailing its findings and efforts to the Legislature*
20 *by July 1, 2010. The committee shall consider and advise the*
21 *secretary on the following issues: of all persons under the*
22 *jurisdiction of the department. The committee shall issue advisory*
23 *reports whenever it deems appropriate, but shall, not less*
24 *frequently than annually, issue a report to the Governor and the*
25 *Legislature. The committee shall make these reports available to*
26 *the public. A report of the Reentry Advisory Committee shall, at*
27 *a minimum, include recommendations on all of the following:*

28 (1) ~~Encouraging collaboration~~ *Collaborative reentry activities*
29 *among key stakeholders at the state and local levels.*

30 (2) ~~Developing a knowledge base of~~ *Best practice models and*
31 *programs related to what people need to successfully return to*
32 *their communities from prison and what resources communities*
33 *need to successfully provide for these needs.*

34 (3) ~~Incorporating~~ *Incorporation of reentry outcomes into*
35 *department organizational missions and work plans as priorities.*

36 (4) *Funding of reentry programs.*

37 (5) *Promoting systems of integration and coordination.*

38 (6) ~~Measuring outcomes and evaluating the impact~~ *Measurement*
39 *and evaluation of the effect of reentry programs.*

1 ~~(7) Educating the public—~~*Public education* about reentry
2 programs and their role in public safety.

3 ~~(d) The committee shall develop a comprehensive resource~~
4 ~~guide for community-based organizations, faith-based~~
5 ~~organizations, service providers, law enforcement agencies, and~~
6 ~~industry and governmental entities working to address the issues~~
7 ~~of reentry through programs, service delivery, or both programs~~
8 ~~and service delivery. The guide shall also detail the availability~~
9 ~~of private, city, county, city and county, state, and federal resources~~
10 ~~for former offenders attempting to successfully reintegrate into~~
11 ~~society. The guide shall be made available to the public in order~~
12 ~~to maximize the potential for collaboration.~~

13 ~~(d)~~
14 ~~(e) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall immediately seek~~
15 ~~and apply for all federal grant funding available through the federal~~
16 ~~Second Chance Act of 2007: Community Safety Through~~
17 ~~Recidivism Prevention (Public Law 110-199).~~

18 ~~(e)~~
19 ~~(f) As required by the federal Second Chance Act of 2007:~~
20 ~~Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention, the Reentry~~
21 ~~Advisory Committee shall develop a comprehensive strategic~~
22 ~~reentry plan containing annual and five-year performance goals.~~
23 ~~The comprehensive reentry plan shall seek to reduce the rate of~~
24 ~~recidivism by 50 percent over a five-year period for offenders~~
25 ~~released from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility who are served~~
26 ~~with funds provided under the federal Second Chance Act of 2007:~~
27 ~~Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention. The outcome~~
28 ~~measures for the plan developed pursuant to this subdivision may~~
29 ~~include, but shall not be limited to, the following:~~

30 ~~(1) Reduction in crime.~~
31 ~~(2) Increase in employment and educational opportunities.~~
32 ~~(3) Reduction in supervised release violations.~~
33 ~~(4) Increase in child support obligation compliance.~~
34 ~~(5) Reduction in drug and alcohol abuse.~~
35 ~~(6) Increase in participation in substance abuse and mental health~~
36 ~~services.~~

37 ~~(7) Other outcome measures that correlate positively with the~~
38 ~~reentry success rate of offenders who transition out of prisons,~~
39 ~~jails, or juvenile facilities.~~

40 ~~(f)~~

1 (g) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall develop the
2 comprehensive strategic reentry plan in consultation with
3 community members and stakeholders, including persons in the
4 fields of public safety, juvenile and adult corrections, housing,
5 health, education, substance abuse, child and family services,
6 victim services, employment, and business, and members of
7 nonprofit organizations working on reentry policy or providing
8 reentry services.

9 ~~(g)~~

10 (h) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall examine ways to
11 pool resources and funding streams to promote lower recidivism
12 rates among returning offenders and to minimize the harmful
13 effects of offender incarceration on the families and communities
14 of offenders by collecting data and developing best practices on
15 offender reentry from demonstration grantees and other
16 organizations.

17 ~~(h)~~

18 (i) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall submit an annual
19 report to the Legislature and the United States Attorney General
20 detailing the progress of grantees towards achieving strategic
21 performance outcomes and describing other activities conducted
22 by grantees to increase the success rates of the reentry population,
23 such as programs that foster effective risk management and
24 treatment programming, offender accountability, and community
25 and victim participation.

26 ~~(i)~~

27 (j) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, ~~2014~~
28 ~~2016~~, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later statute, that is
29 enacted before January 1, ~~2014~~ ~~2016~~, deletes or extends that date.